The Cost of Gold Open Access: A Case Study of the UK

Between 2012 and 2015, the UK developed open-access policies which encouraged adoption of Gold OA (open-access publishing in journals) in particular. As part of this, major research sponsors made funds available to institutions to pay article-processing charges (APCs) and other institutional costs of OA. This presentation provides an overview of the current situation in UK higher education institutions with regard to funding Gold OA. In particular, it reports recent research analysing data from 24 institutions on APC expenditure, drawing comparisons with subscription expenditure on journals. Issues such as perceived publisher ‘double dipping’, funding of administrative processes and managing responses to funder mandates will be discussed. These issues are set in the wider context of the uptake of OA in the UK and more widely.

BIOGRAPHIE

Dr Stephen Pinfield is a Senior Lecturer at the Information School in the University of Sheffield, UK. He has particular research interests in scholarly communication, open access, research data management and digital library development. He has published and spoken widely on these topics. Before taking up his post in Sheffield in 2012, he was the Chief Information Officer at the University of Nottingham, and was founding Director of the SHERPA initiative.